

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 00484 240700Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 /070 W  
-----115116 241014Z /10

R 240534Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6580  
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 0484

JERUSALEM FOR USDEL

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4  
TAGS: PEPR SY IZ  
SUBJECT: SYRO-IRAQI MEETINGS IN ALGIERS

1. MARVINE HOWE, NEW YORK TIMES CORRESPONDENT, TOLD US JANUARY 23 THAT SHE HAD BRIEF INTERVIEW WITH ALGERIAN PRESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR TALIB IBRAHIMI THAT MORNING AT DAMASCUS HOTEL. ACCORDING IBRAHIMI, SYRIAN AND IRAQI DELEGATES ARE CURRENTLY MEETING IN ALGIERS IN ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE THEIR DIFFERENCES. HE ADDED THAT A SUMMIT MEETING OF TRIPLI CONFERENCE STATES WILL CONVENE IN ALGIERS IN EARLY FEBRUARY.
2. THERE HAS BEEN NO LOCAL PUBLICITY ABOUT MEETINGS AND  
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RELIABLE FONMINISTRY SOURCE TELLS US THAT NO REPRESENTATIVE OF HIS MINISTRY HAS BEEN SENT TO ALGIERS FOR SUCH TALKS.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO REASON TO DISCOUNT IBRAHIMI STATEMENT, THEREFORE ASSUME THAT SYRIAN REPRESENTATION IS PROBABLY MEMER(S) OF BAATH PARTY COMMAND.

4. SINCE REFERENDUM ON ASSAD'S CANDIDACY TO SUCCEED  
HIMSELF AS PRESIDENT OF SYRIA HAS NOW BEEN SET FOR  
FEBRUARY 8, WE DOUBT VERY MUCH THAT PRESIDENT WOULD  
ABSENT HIMSELF FROM SYRIA BEFORE THAT DATE. (FOR  
APPEARANCES SAKE HE MUST DO A MINIMUM OF CAMPAIGNING.)  
MURPHY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978DAMASC00484  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X4  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780035-0194  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 3726954  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014